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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/583,428	06/15/2007	Cedric Thebault	PD030134	6972
24498	7590	10/26/2007		
THOMSON LICENSING LLC Two Independence Way Suite 200 PRINCETON, NJ 08540			EXAMINER NGUYEN, KHAI M	
			ART UNIT 2819	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/26/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/583,428

Applicant(s)

THEBAULT ET AL.

Examiner

Khai M. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/19/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/19/2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/19/2006.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. An initiated copy of the information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on June 19, 2006 is attached herewith.

Specification

3. The application has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible typographical and grammatical errors. However, Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which he/she may become aware in the application.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 3 is objected to because of the word "birs" is misspelled and/or not understood. Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Akeley et al. (US 5,819,017) [hereinafter Akeley].

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Regarding claim 1, Akeley discloses (Tables 3-4; lines 64 of col. 11 → line 33 of col. 13) a method for transcoding a N bits word into a M bits word, $N > M$ (N & M, e.g., are 24 and 16, respectively – Tables 3-4), wherein it comprises the following steps:

breaking down the N bits word into (N = 24 – Table 3) an exponent part (i.e., the MSB part of N = 24-bit, col. 1 of Table 3) and a mantissa part (the remaining part or LSB part N = 24-bit, col. 1 of Table 3) having each a size which varies according to the value of said N bits word, the size of the mantissa part (“...xxx” part) increasing (from last row to first row of col. 1 of Table 3) with the value of said N bits word (as noted in Table 3, col. 1); and

encoding the exponent part (i.e., the MSB bits of col. 1) of the N = 24 bits word into a variable number of bits A (A varies from 1 to 4 bits – noted in Table 3) and removing (i.e., discarding), if need be, least significant bits of the mantissa part (LSB part – i.e., unused LSB bits) in order to obtain a mantissa with a variable number of bits B (B varies between 12 bits to 15 bits as noted in col. 3 of Table 3), with $A+B=M=16$ bits.

Regarding claim 2, Akeley discloses (Tables 1-4 and Figs. 1-7) a device for transcoding a N bits word into a M bits word, $N > M$ (as noted in Table 3, N = 24 and M = 16), comprising:

means (i.e., Fig. 4 is configured to perform the coding process noted in Table 3) for breaking down the N = 24 bits word into an exponent part (MSB part of col. 1 of Table 3) and a mantissa part (the remaining part or LSB part of col. 1 of Table 3) having

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each a size which varies according to the value of said N bits word (exponent part varies from 1 to 4 bits; and exponent part varies from 12 to 15 bits – noted Table 3), the size of the mantissa part increasing (from 12 to 15 bits – Table 3) with the value of said N bits word, and

means for (Fig. 4 and Table 3) encoding the exponent part of the N bits word into a variable number of bits A (A varies between 1 to 4 bits) and removing (i.e., discarding), if need be, least significant bits of the mantissa part (LSB part – i.e., unused LSB bits) in order to obtain a mantissa with a variable number of bits B (B varies between 12 to 15 bits), with $A+B=M = 16$ bits.

6. Claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the references of record, which reviewed and considered, neither reveal nor render obvious the recited combination including: the degamma means, the transcoding device of claim 2, and the mapping memory.

Prior Art

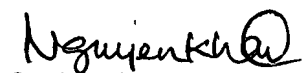
7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclose (see references cited on PTO-892 Form attached herewith).

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khai M. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1809. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 5:30 Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rexford (Rex) Barnie can be reached on 571-272-7492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


October 16, 2007

Khai M. Nguyen
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571-272-1809